British Medical Journal Supplement

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Correspondence

Because of heavy pressure on our space, correspondents are asked to keep their letters short.

Recruitment to the R.A.M.C.

SIR,—I find Brigadier R. Phillipson's letter (August 12, p. 123) misleading. Concerning the three factors adverse to recruiting which he cites, I would point out:

(*a*) *Ban on Regular Officers' Retirement.*—This was Government policy at that time. It affected certain arms and branches of the Service and was not specific to the R.A.M.C.

(*b*) *The Recommendations of the McFie Committee.*—The recommendation was that colonels should serve until 57 years of age and not be retired after serving for four years in that rank. This was considered to be in the best interest of all officers. If after 1952 a colonel decided to apply for voluntary retirement, and was below the age for normal retirement, he knew very well that some financial penalty would be involved.

(*c*) *The Waverley Recommendations.*—As far as the Army Medical Services are concerned, all but three of these recommendations have been implemented. An appreciable number of them were actually in practice before the Waverley Committee was convened.—I am, etc.,

London W.6. ALEXANDER DRUMMOND.

Doctors in the Armed Forces

SIR,—Your short-service commission correspondents of the past few weeks have obviously failed to add together all sources of income whilst in the Services—they will find that in fact this pay is comparable to that of the civilian medical practitioner in the R.A.F. A gross salary of £1,410, to which is added an annual tax-free gratuity of £330 (June 17, p. 314), gives us a total of £1,740. Dr. Robin Steel (August 5, p. 120) should add to his basic salary his marriage allowance, ration allowance, child allowance, and tax-free gratuity—not forgetting his local overseas allowance—and see that his gross salary exceeds £1,710. The basic salary of a C.M.P. has no extras.

Recruitment to the Services would be increased by not discriminating against the single man. A salary increase, yes, but let the income of the single and married officer be the same. If a comparison were to be made with civilian employment then we would live in the farcical state where we would be paid "marriage allowance" under the N.H.S. Sir, may I, as an ex-National Service man who survived on basic pay, endorse the view first expressed by your correspondent Dr. M. Allen (March 11, p. 86)?—I am, etc.,

Wembley Park, Middx. S. T. ENG.

Forgoing Salary Increases

SIR,—I am sorry that Mr. David H. Patey's medico-political vision is not as clear as his surgical vision. His suggestion (August 5, p. 120) that the recent pay rise should be refused in the national interest is not valid, as this increase is some years overdue. One might as well suggest that no pay be taken, as none was offered before 1948. Come to think of it, that might not be a bad idea; we could then return to private practice with considerable benefit to our patients and ourselves.—I am, etc.,

Writtle, Essex. J. TUDOR PEMBLETON.

Post-natal Visits

SIR,—All friends of Dr. G. DeLacey will know that he must have his little joke, but I think that his letter headed "Post-natal Visits" (July 29, p. 105) deserves a little explanation. The home help was present in the house because her work contribution made it possible to arrange the home confinement attended by Dr. DeLacey, and the lady who was with her was no doubt the "area specialist" who arranges her work, sees to payment, and so forth. They would, however, both be surprised, I am sure, to hear of their presence being described as a post-natal visit. The midwife and superintendent midwife, as described by Dr. DeLacey, were a pupil midwife and the midwifery tutor who is in charge of the Part II training school, and nobody knows better than Dr. DeLacey, who has had trainee assistants, that pupils must have supervision from the more experienced.—I am, etc.,

F. LANGFORD,
Lewes. County Medical Officer of Health.

Prescription Charge

SIR,—The *Supplement* of July 29 (p. 77) contains a report of a statement by Dr. B. Taylor at the A.R.M. supporting the 2s. prescription charge, and I wish to point out that Dr. Taylor was speaking in his personal capacity.

Dr. Taylor is aware, even if the R.B. was not, that the Tower Hamlets Division, which he was representing, endorsed its original resolution deploring all charges, and he was present at the meeting when several members quoted cases of hardship.

I hope that some of us will be able to convince Dr. Taylor that cases of hardship do exist in this area, but would meanwhile like to assure my old friends in the R.B. that the policy of the Tower Hamlets Division has not changed in its firm opposition to prescription charges, and, I hope, will not while I am associated with it.—I am, etc.,

SAM SMITH,
Chairman,
London E.3. Tower Hamlets Division, B.M.A.

TRADE UNION MEMBERSHIP

The following local authority is understood to require employees to be members of a trade union or other organization:

Non-County Borough Councils.—Crewe.

B.M.A. LIBRARY

The Library service is available to all members of the Association resident in Great Britain and Northern Ireland (and by special arrangement to members of the Irish Medical Association). A copy of the Library Rules will be forwarded on application to the Librarian at B.M.A. House.

The following books have been added to the Library:

Benton, A. L.: Right-Left Discrimination and Finger Localization. 1959.
Best, C. H., and Taylor, N. B.: The Physiological Basis of Medical Practice. 7th edition. 1961.
Bicknell, F.: Chemicals in Food, and in Farm Produce: Their Harmful Effects. 1960.
Bier, N.: Correction of Subnormal Vision. 1960.
Bowsher, D.: Cerebrospinal Fluid Dynamics in Health and Disease. 1960.
Charnley, J.: The Closed Treatment of Common Fractures. 3rd edition. 1961.
Chest and Heart Association: Pneumoconiosis—Modern Trends. 1961.
Cooper, I. S.: Parkinsonism: Its Medical and Surgical Therapy. 1961.
Cronkite, E. P., and Bond, V. P.: Radiation Injury in Man. 1960.
Davey, T. H., and Lightbody, W. P. H.: The Control of Disease in the Tropics. 2nd edition. 1961.
Dix, D. K., and Todd, A. H.: Medical Evidence in Personal Injury Cases. 1961.
Edwards, A. H.: Mental Health Services. 3rd edition. 1961.
Grinker, R. R., Bucy, P. C., and Sahs, A. L.: Neurology. 5th edition. 1960.
Hall, M. P.: The Social Services of Modern England. 5th edition. 1960.
Harrison, R. G., and Hoey, M. J.: The Adrenal Circulation. 1960.
Hermann, K.: Reading Disability. 1959.
Hutton, L.: The Single Woman. 1960.
Jarvis, D. C.: Arthritis and Folk Medicine. 1960.
Jung, C. G.: The Collected Works. Vol. 8. The Structure and Dynamics of the Psyche. 1960.
Keele, K. D., and Matheson, N. M.: Intra-abdominal Crises. 1961.
Le Roux, B. T.: Techniques of Thoracotomy. 1961.
Ludovici, L. J.: Cone of Oblivion: A Vendetta in Science. 1961.
Lush, B. (Editor): Concepts of Medicine. 1961.
Martin-Doyle, J. L. C.: A Synopsis of Ophthalmology. 2nd edition. 1961.
Massey, Sir H.: The New Age in Physics. 1960.
Perkins, G.: Orthopaedics. 1961.
Pitt-Rivers, R., and Tata, J. R.: The Chemistry of Thyroid Diseases. 1960.
Prankerd, T. A. J.: The Red Cell. 1961.
Prescriber's List of Proprietary Medical Products. 1961.
Ramey, E. R., and O'Doherty, D. S. (Editors): Electrical Studies on the Unanesthetized Brain. 1960.
Reading, P.: Common Diseases of the Ear, Nose, and Throat. 3rd edition. 1961.
Shepherd, J. A.: Surgery of the Acute Abdomen. 1960.
Speller, S. R.: The Mental Health Act, 1959. 1961.
Stead, G.: Elementary Physics. 10th edition. 1961.
Sutton, P. R. N.: Fluoridation. 1959.
Sutton, R. L.: Diseases of the Skin. 11th edition. 1956.
Todd, J. W. (Editor): Textbook of Clinical Medicine. 1960.
Tower, D. B.: Neurochemistry of Epilepsy. 1960.
Valensin, G.: Artificial Insemination in Woman. 1960.
Vernon, P. E.: Intelligence and Attainment Tests. 1960.
Vulliamy, D. G.: The Newborn Child. 1961.
Walsh, E. O'F.: An Introduction to Biochemistry. 1961.
Walton, J. N.: Essentials of Neurology. 1961.
Warren, R.: Procedures in Vascular Surgery. 1960.
Watson, B. B. (Editor): The Delayed Effects of Whole-body Radiation: A Symposium. 1960.
Whillis's Elementary Anatomy and Physiology. 5th edition, by R. Warwick. 1961.
Williams, L.: Alcoholism. 1956.
Wimperis, V.: The Unmarried Mother and Her Child. 1960.
Woodruff, M. F. A.: The Transplantation of Tissues and Organs. 1960.
Yoffey, J. M.: Quantitative Cellular Haematology. 1960.

H.M. Forces

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS

Captain W. C. Moffat to be Major.

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS

Major L. Tippett, from Active List, to be Major.

TERRITORIAL ARMY

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS

Lieutenant-Colonel J. Bunting, T.D., has been granted the acting rank of Colonel.

Lieutenant-Colonel B. B. Hickey, T.D., from A.E.R.O., to be Lieutenant-Colonel.

Major (Acting Lieutenant-Colonel) E. D. Edmondson has relinquished the acting rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

Major C. Weymes has been granted the acting rank of Colonel.

Majors J. G. S. Holman, M.C., A. M. Watt, and T. M. Pemberton, M.B.E., have been granted the acting rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

Majors F. A. Edwards, T.D., and S. S. Chesser, T.D., having attained the age limit, have retired, retaining the rank of Major.

Major K. A. Cowan, from A.E.R.O., to be Major.

Captains (Acting Majors) R. A. N. Petrie and J. R. Rawstron have relinquished the acting rank of Major.

Captains (Acting Majors) C. A. Holborow, H. W. Trusted, R. M. Stewart, and F. W. M. Emery to be Majors.

Captains J. Leiper, M.B.E., T.D., F. R. Stinson, M. N. Fergusson, A. C. M. L. Miller, D. W. C. Smith, J. A. D. Freeman, and D. L. Golightly to be Majors.

Captain J. W. Rentoul has been granted the acting rank of Major.

Association Notices

C. H. MILBURN PRIZE, 1961

The Council of the British Medical Association is prepared to consider the award of the C. H. Milburn Prize for the year 1961. The prize, of £100 in value, will be awarded on the recommendation of judges appointed by the Council for an essay or study on the subject of medical jurisprudence and/or forensic medicine.

Any medical practitioner registered in the British Commonwealth or the Republic of Ireland is eligible to compete. No essay or study that has previously been published in the medical press or elsewhere will be considered eligible for the prize. If any question arises in reference to the eligibility of a candidate or the admissibility of an entry, the decision of the Council shall be final. Should the appointed judges report to the Council that they consider that no entry submitted is of sufficient merit, the prize will not be awarded for 1961.

Each entry, which must be typewritten or printed in the English language, should be unsigned, but accompanied by a note of the candidate's name and address. It is suggested that entries should not exceed 10,000 words. Preliminary notice of entry for this prize is required on a form of application to be obtained from the Secretary. Entries must be sent to the Secretary, British Medical Association, B.M.A. House, Tavistock Square, London W.C.1, not later than October 31, 1961. Inquiries concerning the prize should be addressed to the Secretary.

D. P. STEVENSON,
Secretary.

Diary of Central Meetings

SEPTEMBER

6	Wed.	Civil Service Medical Officers Joint Committee, 2.30 p.m.
13	Wed.	Central Ethical Committee, 10 a.m.
15	Fri	Technical Developments and Regulations (Noise) Subcommittee, Occupational Health Committee, 2 p.m.
18	Mon.	S.H.M.O.s Group Executive Committee, 2 p.m.
19	Tues.	Central Ethical Committee (adjourned), 10 a.m.
20	Wed.	Committee on Education in Obstetrics, 10.30 a.m.
21	Thurs.	G.M.S. Committee, 10.30 a.m.

OCTOBER

5	Thurs.	Subcommittee on Child Psychiatric Services, Central Consultants and Specialists Committee, 10.30 a.m.
5	Thurs.	Infants' Preparations Panel, Joint Formulary Committee, 11 a.m.
18	Wed.	Joint Formulary Committee, 11 a.m.

Branch and Division Officers Elected

ARMAGH AND WEST DOWN DIVISION.—Chairman, Dr. J. T. Carson. Vice-chairman, Dr. J. A. Mark. Honorary Secretary, Dr. R. E. Hadden. Honorary Treasurer, Dr. D. T. Patton.

DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY DIVISION.—Chairman, Dr. G. Watt. Vice-chairman, Dr. H. Jarvis. Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, Dr. J. B. Wilson.

EAST DENBIGH AND FLINT DIVISION.—Chairman, Dr. D. L. Williams. Vice-chairman, Dr. G. W. Roberts. Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, Dr. N. E. Lewis.

MACCLESFIELD AND EAST CHESHIRE DIVISION.—Chairman, Mr. A. S. Scott. Vice-chairman, Dr. R. A. Burnett. Honorary Secretary, Dr. P. J. L. Chapman. Assistant Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer, Dr. J. Bowker.

WEST NORFOLK DIVISION.—Chairman, Dr. G. F. Barran. Vice-chairman, Dr. M. Mehta. Honorary Secretary, Dr. R. N. Reeve. Honorary Treasurer, Dr. R. V. Smith.

WEST SUFFOLK DIVISION.—Chairman, Mr. E. S. Jamieson. Vice-chairman, Dr. N. Stevens. Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, Dr. S. Blaxland.

WEST SUSSEX DIVISION.—Chairman, Dr. H. Rosenberg. Vice-chairmen, Dr. T. L. Scott, Dr. R. S. Stevens. Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, Dr. T. P. Mulcahy.